

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize Independence Center in St. Louis, Missouri, which will celebrate the Grand Opening of its new Wellness Center with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony to be held October 7, 2003; and

Whereas, since 1981, Independence Center has provided a vast array of high-quality services for adults with mental illness in the St. Louis community through a variety of services that include housing and residential services, partial hospital care, case management, psychiatric and medication management, an education program, and the state's only two certified clubhouse programs; and

Whereas, the wellness program is the latest addition to this comprehensive network of services and seeks to address the alarming rate of coronary artery disease and diabetes among those suffering from mental illness; and

Whereas, the Independence Center wellness program will feature an educational initiative to train members and staff to recognize risk factors for coronary artery disease and diabetes, an enhanced screening capacity at the Center's Midwest Psychiatry office, and an on-site Wellness Center with a range of individualized exercise and educational programs; and

Whereas, Independence Center embarked upon a comprehensive wellness program to reduce the risk of diseases among its members with the help of a grant of nearly \$700,000 from the Missouri Foundation for Health; and

Whereas, the Wellness Center is an exercise and healthy living facility and part of the comprehensive wellness program available for use by the members of Independence Center; and

Whereas, during the Grand Opening ceremony, Independence Center members will provide tours of the Wellness Center that will include a firsthand look at the facility's workout room, instructional areas, locker rooms, and "energy bar", where healthy refreshments will be made available:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations to all those dedicated individuals affiliated with Independence Center as they proudly commemorate this momentous milestone; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Independence Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Barbara Wall Fraser
District No. 83

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. ____, adopted _____, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker